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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

INFORMATION ON THE SUBMISSION OF INITIAL NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. According to Article 12.5 of the Convention, each Party not included in Annex I to the Convention shall make its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3. Parties that are least developed countries (LDCs) may make their initial communication at their discretion.

2. The secretariat has received initial national communications from two non-Annex I Parties, Argentina and Jordan.

3. In order to present to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) an overview on the current status of preparation of national communications of all non-Annex I Parties, the secretariat has been collecting information on the indicated dates of submission and on the status of work on elements of initial national communications. Such information is presented in annex I to the present document and reflects the responses of non-Annex I Parties to a questionnaire sent by the secretariat, as well as information provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), its implementing agencies and by bilateral programmes. The above-mentioned questionnaire is attached in annex II. In order to contain the best possible updates and greater detail than the document submitted to the subsidiary bodies at their fifth sessions (FCCC/SB/1997/INF.1, annex I), the present document is only available in English and distributed at the meeting.

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4. The table in annex I covers 129 non-Annex I Parties to the Convention of which 40 are LDCs. Taking into account the two Parties which have submitted their national communications, information on the status of preparation of national communications is available from 109 Parties, of which 72 are not LDCs. Thirty-four of the latter have submitted or indicated a date for the submission of their initial national communication. In addition to Argentina and Jordan, another 16 Parties are expecting to finalize the preparation of their national communication in 1997, while another eight, six and two Parties have indicated submission dates during the years 1998, 1999 and 2000, respectively. Dates of submission of their initial national communication have been indicated by eight LDCs, of which three, four and one countries intend to submit in 1998, 1999 and 2000, respectively.

5. Funding for the preparation of national communications of non-Annex I Parties and related activities is available through the financial mechanism and other sources. While it is difficult to provide consistent and concise information covering all these sources, data on the flow of resources from the GEF is available in document FCCC/SBI/1997/MISC.4.

6. Of the 72 non-Annex I Parties, for which information on the status of preparation is available and which are not LDCs, there are two countries which have submitted and 30 countries which have ongoing activities towards the preparation of their first national communication. Another nine of these Parties have obtained the approval of the GEF for national projects and can be expected to be at least in the initial stages of implementing activities, while 12 Parties are preparing, in collaboration with implementing agencies, national projects for GEF funding. In 19 of these countries, activities for the preparation of a national communication are yet to be initiated, even though some may have undertaken partial work in the context of regional or global enabling activity projects. Finally, there is a group of 17 such countries for which no or only scant information exists on the process of preparing initial national communications.

7. Information on the status of preparation of national communications is available from 37 of the 40 LDCs which have ratified the Convention. In eight of these countries, activities are ongoing, another 13 have obtained approval of the GEF for projects at national level, while five are preparing projects for GEF funding. In 11 countries, activities for the preparation of national communications are yet to be initiated. Regional or global projects are being undertaken in some of these countries.

8. Parties are invited to update and amend the information provided in annex I. A questionnaire is attached for this purpose in annex II of this document which, upon completion, may be returned to the secretariat.

Annex I

Status of Preparation of National Communications

*(*Countries in italics: Least Developed Countries)*

Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Albania	3 Oct 1994		To be initiated (expected duration of work: 2 years)	To be initiated (expected duration of work: 2 years)	Completed (a project proposal was completed in June 1996)	✓	Proposed	Proposed
Algeria	9 Jun 1993	Aug 2000	Project under preparation			✓		
Antigua and Barbuda	2 Feb 1993		Project under preparation			✓		
Argentina	11 Mar 1994	Submission made in July 1997	First National Communication finalized	Finalized	Finalized		Established	Established
Armenia	14 May 1993		Ongoing					Established
Azerbaijan	16 May 1995	June 1999	To be initiated	To be initiated (expected completion of the work: March 1998)	Completed (January 1997)		Established	Proposed
Bahamas	29 Mar 1994		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 18 months)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 12 months)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: July 1997)	✓		
Bahrain	28 Dec 1994		Project under preparation					
*Bangladesh**	*15 Apr 1994*		*To be initiated (project under preparation)*	*Completed (July 1996)*	*Ongoing (expected date of completion: mid-1997)*			*Established*

Status of Preparation of National Communications

*(*Countries in italics: Least Developed Countries)*

Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Barbados	23 Mar 1994		To be initiated	To be initiated	To be initiated			
*Benin**	*30 Jun 1994*	*September 1999*	*Ongoing*	*Ongoing (expected date of completion: October 1997)*	*Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1998)*			*Established*
Belize	31 Oct 1994							
*Bhutan**	*25 Aug 1995*	*September 1999*	*Ongoing*				*Established*	*Established*
Bolivia	3 Oct 1994		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 12 months)	Completed (October 1996)	To be initiated (expected duration of work: 3 months)			Established
Botswana	27 Jan 1994	September 1997	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: July 1997)	Ongoing	✓	Proposed	Established
Brazil	28 Feb 1994	Early 1998	Ongoing					
*Burkina Faso**	*2 Sep 1993*		*To be initiated (expected duration of work: two years)*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	✓	*Established*	*Established*
*Burundi**	*6 Jan 1997*							

Status of Preparation of National Communications

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
*Cambodia**	*18 Dec 1995*		*Project underway*					
Cameroon	19 Oct 1994	December 1997	Project underway					
*Cape Verde**	*29 Mar 1995*		*Project underway*					*Proposed*
*Central African Republic**	*10 Mar 1993*		*To be initiated (expected duration of work: two years)*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	✓	*Established*	*Proposed*
*Chad**	*7 Jun 1994*							
Chile	22 Dec 1994		Project under implementation			✓	Established	Proposed
China	5 Jan 1993		Ongoing	Ongoing		✓		
Colombia	22 Mar 1994		Ongoing	Nearing completion		✓		Established
*Comoros**	*31 Oct 1994*		*Project under preparation*					
Congo	14 Oct 1996		Project under preparation					
Cook Islands	20 Apr 1993		To be initiated	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1997-99)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1997-99)			

Status of Preparation of National Communications

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Costa Rica	26 Aug 1994	Early 1998	Ongoing				Established	Established
Côte d'Ivoire	29 Nov 1994							
Cuba	5 Jan 1994	December 1999	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: June 1998)	To be initiated (expected date of completion: June 1999)	✓	Established	Established
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	5 Dec 1994		Ongoing (expected duration of the work: 15 months)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: Dec 1997)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 2 months)	✓	Established	Established
*Democratic Republic of the Congo**	*9 Jan 1995*		*To be initiated (expected duration of work: 24 months)*	*To be initiated (expected duration of work: 12 months)*	*To be initiated (GHG mitigation programmes) - (Expected duration of work: 8 months)*	✓	*Established*	*Proposed*
*Djibouti**	*27 Aug 1995*		*Project under preparation*					
Dominica	21 Jun 1993	1997						
Ecuador	23 Feb 1993		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: January 1997 - January 1998)	Ongoing (expected date of completion June 1997)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work is to be defined)	✓	Established	Established

Status of Preparation of National Communications

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Egypt	5 Dec 1994	March 1998	Ongoing			✓	Established	Established
El Salvador	4 Dec 1995		Project underway				Established	Established
*Eritrea**	*24 Apr 1995*		*Project underway*			✓		
*Ethiopia**	*5 Apr 1994*		*Project underway*					
Fiji	25 Feb 1993		Ongoing	Ongoing	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: Jan.-Jul. 1997)			
*Gambia**	*10 Jun 1994*	*June 1999*	*To be initiated*	*Completed (November 1994)*	*To be initiated (expected duration of work: June 1997 - June 1999)*	✓	*Established*	*Established*
Georgia	29 Jul 1994	January 1999	Ongoing (expected duration of the work: 2 years)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: June 1998)	Completed (March 1996)	✓	Established	Established
Ghana	6 Sep 1995	Early 1998	Project underway	Ongoing			Established	Established
Grenada	11 Aug 1994							
Guatemala	15 Dec 1995		Project underway					

Status of Preparation of National Communications

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
*Guinea**	*7 May 1993*		*To be initiated (expected duration of the work: two years)*	*To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 6 months)*	*- Completed in Feb-May 1997 - A study is currently ongoing and another one is to be initiated*		*Established*	*Proposed*
*Guinea-Bissau**	*27 Oct 1995*		*Project underway*			✓		
Guyana	29 Aug 1994		Project under preparation					
*Haiti**	*25 Sep 1996*		*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*		*Proposed*	*Proposed*
Honduras	19 Oct 1995		Project underway			✓		
India	1 Nov 1993		Project under preparation	Ongoing				Established
Indonesia	23 Aug 1994		Ongoing	Completed (May 1996)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: end of 1997)	✓	Established	Established
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	18 Jul 1996		Project underway			✓		
Israel	4 Jun 1996							
Jamaica	6 Jan 1995		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: two years)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: two years)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 2 years)		Proposed	

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Jordan	12 Nov 1993	Submission made in March 1997	Initial Communication Report: 'National inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHG not controlled by Montreal Protocol'				Established	Established
Kazakhstan	17 May 1995							
Kenya	30 Aug 1994	July 1998	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 6 months) Project under preparation	Ongoing (expected date of completion: November 97)		✓	Established	Established
*Kiribati**	*7 Feb 1995*		*To be initiated*	*Completed (February 1996)*	*To be initiated*			
Kuwait	28 Dec 1994					✓		
*Lao People's Democratic Republic**	*4 Jan 1995*		*Ongoing*				*Established*	*Established*
Lebanon	15 Dec 1994	Oct 1999						

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
*Lesotho**	*7 Feb 1995*	*October 1998*	*Project under implementation*	*Ongoing*	*Ongoing*	✓	*Established*	*Established*
Liechtenstein	22 Jun 1994							
*Malawi**	*21 Apr 1994*		*Project underway*					
Malaysia	13 Jul 1994	December 1998	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1998)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1998)		Established	Established
*Maldives**	*9 Nov 1992*	*1998*	*Ongoing*	*To be initiated (expected starting date: 1997-8)*	*Ongoing (expected date of completion: 1998)*		*Established*	*Established*
*Mali**	*28 Dec 1994*		*Project underway*					
Malta	17 Mar 1994		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 3 months)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 3 months)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 3 months)			
Marshall Islands	8 Oct 1992		To be initiated	Completed	To be initiated			
*Mauritania**	*20 Jan 1994*		*Project under preparation*					

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Mauritius	4 Sep 1992	July 1997	Ongoing (project underway)	Completed for 1990 data	Ongoing (expected date of completion: 30 June 1997)	✓	Established	Established
Mexico	11 Mar 1993	1997	In draft stage			✓		
Micronesia (Federated States of)	18 Nov 1993	1997	Ongoing	Ongoing for 1994 data (1990 data completed in February 95)	Ongoing (completion expected before December 1997)			
Moldova, Republic of	9 Jun 1995		Project under preparation			✓	Proposed	Proposed
Mongolia	30 Sep 1993		To be initiated (expected duration of work: 6 to 9 months - dependent on financial resources)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: July 1997)	To be initiated		Proposed	Established
Morocco	28 Dec 1995	Apr.2000	To be initiated	Ongoing	To be initiated	✓	Established	Established
*Mozambique**	*25 Aug 1995*	*Dependent on completion of the inventory and vulnerability assessment*	*Project underway*	*Expected date of completion: March 1997*				

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
*Myanmar**	*25 Nov 1994*		*Ongoing*			✓		
Namibia	16 May 1995							
Nauru	11 Nov 1993							
*Nepal**	*2 May 1994*							
Nicaragua	31 Oct 1995		Project under preparation					
*Niger**	*25 Jul 1995*		*To be initiated (expected duration of work: two years) (Project under preparation)*	*To be initiated (expected duration of work: two years)*	*To be initiated (expected duration of work: two years)*	✓	*Established*	*Established*
Nigeria	29 Aug 1994		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 2 years)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: 1998)		✓	Established	Established
Niue	28 Feb 1996	1997	Ongoing	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: Jan-May 1997)				

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Oman	8 Feb 1995	January 1998	Ongoing	Completed (November 1996) Draft Final Report	Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1997)	✓	Established	
Pakistan	1 Jun 1994	1997	Ongoing	Completed	Ongoing			
Panama	23 May 1995		Project under preparation			✓	Established	
Papua New Guinea	16 Mar 1993	1997	Project underway					
Paraguay	24 Feb 1994							Established
Peru	7 Jun 1993	September 1997	Ongoing	Completed for 1990 baseline (USCSP) and ongoing for 1994 baseline (expected date of completion: June 1997)	Ongoing	✓	Established	Established
Philippines	2 Aug 1994	Before December 1997	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1 year) (project under preparation)	Ongoing (expected date of the work: 1 year)	To be initiated	✓		
Qatar	18 Apr 1996							

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Republic of Korea	14 Dec 1993	End 1997	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: end of 1997)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: end 1997)		Proposed	Proposed
Saint Kitts and Nevis	7 Jan 1993		To be initiated	To be initiated. The duration of the work is to be determined	To be initiated. The duration of the work is to be determined		Proposed	Proposed
Saint Lucia	14 Jun 1993	March 1999	Project under preparation					
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2 Dec 1996							
*Samoa**	*29 Nov 1994*	*January 1998*	*Ongoing*	*Ongoing*	*Ongoing (expected date of completion: Nov. 1997)*	✓	*Established*	*Proposed*
San Marino	28 Oct 1994							
Saudi Arabia	28 Dec 1994	1997						
Senegal	17 Oct 1994	December 1997	Ongoing (expected duration of the work: 15 months)	First inventory completed in July 1994; second inventory is ongoing (expected date of completion: end of May 1997)	Ongoing (Expected date of completion: May - June 1998)	✓	Established	Established

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Seychelles	22 Sep 1992	First half of 1998		July 1997	Ongoing	✓	Established	
*Sierra Leone**	*22 Jun 1995*		*Project underway*					
Slovenia	1 Dec 1995		Project under preparation			✓	Proposed	
*Solomon Islands**	*28 Dec 1994*		*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	✓		
Sri Lanka	23 Nov 1993		Ongoing	Ongoing	To be initiated		Established	
*Sudan**	*19 Nov 1993*	*Oct 1999*	*Project under implementation*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*			
Swaziland	7 Oct 1996		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 2 years)	To be initiated (expected duration of work: 6 months)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 9 months)	✓	Proposed	Proposed
Syrian Arab Republic	4 Jan 1996					✓		
Thailand	28 Dec 1994		To be initiated	Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1997)	Ongoing (expected duration of the work: 6 months)	✓	Established	Established
*Togo**	*8 Mar 1995*		*Project underway*			✓		
Trinidad and Tobago	24 Jun 1994							

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Tunisia	15 Jul 1993	Aug 1999	Ongoing (project under preparation)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: August 1997)	To be initiated (expected date of completion: March 1998)		Established	Established
Turkmenistan	5 Jun 1995		To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 2 years after having received funding) (project underway)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1 year)	To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1 year)	✓	Established	Established
*Tuvalu**	*26 Oct 1993*		*To be initiated*	*To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1997-8)*	*To be initiated*	✓		
*Uganda**	*8 Sep 1993*		*Project underway*			✓		
United Arab Emirates	29 Dec 1995							
*United Republic of Tanzania**	*17 Apr 1996*		*To be initiated (expected duration of the work: 1-2 years) (project underway)*	*Completed (1994)*	*Ongoing*		*Established*	*Established*

Status of Preparation of National Communications

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Party	Ratification Date	Indicated Date of Submission of National Communication	Status of Preparation of National Communication			Institutional Arrangements		
			General Status	GHG Inventory	General Description of Steps	National Focal Point	Climate Change Committee	Expert Technical Team
Uruguay	18 Aug 1994		Project under implementation	Ongoing	Ongoing			Established
Uzbekistan	20 Jun 1993	October 1998	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: Dec 1997)	To be initiated (expected date of completion: Jun 1998)	✓	Established	Established
*Vanuatu**	*25 Mar 1993*		*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*	✓		
Venezuela	28 Dec 1994					✓		
Viet Nam	16 Nov 1994	1997	To be initiated	Completed (March 1996)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: December 1997)		Established	
*Yemen**	*21 Feb 1996*	*August 2000*	*Project underway*	*To be initiated*	*To be initiated*			
*Zambia**	*28 May 1993*		*Project underway*				*Established*	*Established*
Zimbabwe	3 Nov 1992	End September 1997	Ongoing	Ongoing (expected date of completion: end of July 1997)	Ongoing (expected date of completion: end of September 1997)		Established	Established

Annex II

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE STATUS OF PREPARATION OF NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

I. National communication

Present situation of preparation of national communication:

[ ] Completed — Date of completion: _____
[ ] Ongoing — Expected date of completion: _____
[ ] To be initiated — Expected duration of the work: _____

a) Present situation of preparation of greenhouse gas inventories:

[ ] Completed — Date of completion: _____
[ ] Ongoing — Expected date of completion: _____
[ ] To be initiated — Expected duration of the work: _____

b) Present situation of preparation of General Description of steps:

[ ] Completed — Date of completion: _____
[ ] Ongoing — Expected date of completion: _____
[ ] To be initiated — Expected duration of the work: _____

II. Institutional arrangements for the preparation of national communications

1. Climate Change Committee: [ ] Established [ ] Proposed
2. Expert Technical Team: [ ] Established [ ] Proposed

III. Process of preparation of national communications

1. Has a request for financial assistance for the preparation of the national communication been made?

[ ] No — Will a request be made? _____
Expected date of request: _____

[ ] Yes — From which institution has financial assistance been requested:
[ ] GEF _____ Date: _____
[ ] Bilateral agencies: _____ Date: _____
[ ] Others: _____ Date: _____

2. Major problems and constraints (e.g. procedural, financial, technical, etc.): _____

_____

_____

3. Possible ways to overcome them:

[ ] Regional and sub-regional workshops
[ ] Forum for the exchange of experience on emission factors and activity data
[ ] Promotion of regional cooperation
[ ] Technical "hot-line" (telephone, fax, e-mail)
[ ] Other: _____

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_____

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